AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A method for making a fibrous structure, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers onto a forming member so as to form one or more layers including the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers;

providing a plurality of long cellulosic fibers onto the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers so as to form one or more layers including predominantly long cellulosic fibers; ~~and~~

forming a unitary fibrous structure including the one or more layers including the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers and one or more layers including predominantly long cellulosic fibers; and

redistributing at least some of the synthetic fibers.

Claim 2 (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers have a fiber length ratio greater than about 1.

Claim 3 (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers have a fiber length ratio between about 1 and about 20.

Claim 4 (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the mixture of and synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers has a coarseness value of less than about 50mg/100m.

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1~~5~~, wherein the step of redistributing the synthetic fibers includes heating or cooling at least a portion of some of the synthetic fibers.

Claim 7 (Original) The method of Claim 1, further including the step of impressing the fibrous structure between a molding member and a pressing surface to densify portions of the fibrous structure.

Claim 8 (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the forming member is moving at a first velocity and the method further includes the steps of:

providing a second member at a second velocity that is less than the first velocity; and

transferring the embryonic web from the forming member to the second member so as to microcontract the embryonic web.

Claim 9 (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the unitary fibrous structure is creped, uncreped or embossed.

Claim 10 (Original) The method of Claim 1 including the further step of providing latex to at least a portion of at least one surface of the unitary fibrous structure.

Claim 11 (Currently amended) A method for making a fibrous structure, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers onto a forming member having a pattern of channels, the mixture provided such that at least some of the synthetic fibers are disposed in the channels;

providing a plurality of long cellulosic fibers onto the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers such that the long cellulosic fibers are disposed adjacent to the synthetic fibers;

redistributing at least some of the synthetic fibers; and

forming a unitary fibrous structure including the synthetic fibers, the short cellulosic fibers and the long cellulosic fibers.

Claim 12 (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers is provided onto the forming member before the plurality of long cellulosic fibers are provided.

Claim 13 (Currently amended) The method of Claim 11 ~~further including the step of redistributing at least some of the synthetic fibers to form a unitary fibrous structure in which at least some of the plurality of synthetic fibers~~ wherein at least some of the synthetic fibers are distributed in a pattern different from the pattern formed by the pattern of channels.

Claim 14 (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the step of redistributing the synthetic fibers includes heating or cooling at least a portion of some of the synthetic fibers.

Claim 15 (Original) The method of Claim 11 further including the step of impressing the fibrous structure between a molding member and a pressing surface to densify portions of the fibrous structure.

Claim 16 (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the forming member is moving at a first velocity and the method further includes the steps of:

providing a second member at a second velocity that is less than the first velocity; and

transferring the embryonic web from the forming member to the second member so as to microcontract the embryonic web.

Claim 17 (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the unitary fibrous structure is creped, uncreped or embossed.

Claim 18 (Original) The method of Claim 11 including the further step of providing latex to at least a portion of at least one surface of the unitary fibrous structure.

Claim 19 (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers have a fiber length ratio greater than about 1.

Claim 20 (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers have a fiber length ratio between about 1 and about 20.

Claim 21 (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the mixture of and synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers has a coarseness value of less than about 50mg/100m.

Claim 22 (Currently amended) A method for making a unitary fibrous structure, comprising the steps of:

providing a first aqueous slurry comprising a mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers;

providing a second aqueous slurry comprising a plurality of long cellulosic fibers;

depositing the first and second aqueous slurries onto a fluid-permeable forming member having a pattern of channels;

partially dewatering the deposited first and second slurries to form a fibrous web comprising the plurality of long cellulosic fibers randomly distributed throughout at least one layer of the fibrous web and the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers at least partially non-randomly distributed in the channels;

applying a fluid pressure differential to the fibrous web disposed on the molding member, thereby molding the fibrous web according to the pattern of channels, wherein the fibrous web disposed on the molding member comprises a first plurality of micro-regions corresponding to a plurality of fluid-permeable areas of the molding member and a second plurality of micro-regions corresponding to a plurality of fluid-impermeable areas of the molding member;

transferring the fibrous web from the molding member to a drying surface;

redistributing at least some of the synthetic fibers; and

forming the unitary fibrous structure in which the mixture of synthetic fibers and short cellulosic fibers is disposed in a predetermined pattern and the plurality of long cellulosic fibers remain generally randomly distributed throughout at least one layer of the fibrous structure.